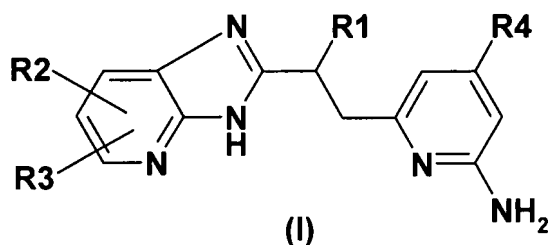


**Appendix A****Claim Amendments**

1. (Previously presented) A compound of formula I



in which

R1 is hydrogen or 1-4C-alkyl,

R2 is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, nitro, amino, 1-7C-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, 3-7C-cycloalkyl, 3-7C-cycloalkyl-1-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy, completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-4C-alkoxy, 1-4C-alkoxy-1-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy-1-4C-alkoxy, 1-4C-alkoxycarbonyl, mono- or di-1-4C-alkylaminocarbonyl, mono- or di-1-4C-alkylaminosulfonyl, 1-4C-alkylcarbonylamino, 1-4C-alkylsulfonylamino, phenyl, R21- and/or R211-substituted phenyl, phenyl-1-4C-alkyl, phenyl-1-4C-alkyl wherein the phenyl moiety is substituted by R22, phenyl-1-4C-alkoxy, pyridyl, pyridyl substituted by R23, pyridyl-1-4C-alkyl, or pyridyl-1-4C-

alkyl wherein the pyridyl moiety is substituted by R24,  
in which

R21 is cyano, halogen, carboxyl, 1-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy, aminocarbonyl, mono- or di-1-4C-alkylaminocarbonyl, 1-4C-alkylcarbonylamino, 1-4C-alkoxycarbonyl, aminosulfonyl, mono- or di-1-4C-alkylaminosulfonyl, amino, mono- or di-1-4C-alkylamino, trifluoromethyl, hydroxyl, phenylsulfonylamino, phenyl-1-4C-alkoxy, or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-Het, in which

Het is bonded to the adjacent sulfonyl group via a ring nitrogen atom, and is a 3- to 7-membered fully saturated heterocyclic ring comprising one nitrogen atom, to which the sulfonyl group is attached, and optionally one further heteroatom selected from the group consisting of N(R210), oxygen and sulfur, in which

R210 is 1-4C-alkyl,

R211 is halogen or 1-4C-alkoxy,

R22 is halogen, 1-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkoxy,

R23 is halogen, 1-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkoxy,

R24 is halogen, 1-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkoxy,

R3 is hydrogen, halogen, 1-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkoxy,

R4 is 1-4C-alkyl, or 1-4C-alkoxy,

or a salt, N-oxide or a salt of an N-oxide thereof.

2. (Previously presented) The compound of formula I as claimed in claim 1 in which

R1 is hydrogen or 1-2C-alkyl,

R2 is hydrogen, halogen, phenyl, or R21- and/or R211-substituted phenyl, in which

R21 is 1-4C-alkyl, cyano, halogen, mono- or di-1-4C-alkylamino, trifluoromethyl, mono- or di-1-4C-alkylaminosulfonyl, hydroxyl, phenyl-1-4C-alkoxy, or -S(O)<sub>2</sub>-Het, in which

Het is azetidin-1-yl, pyrrolidin-1-yl, piperidin-1-yl, or 4N-(R210)-piperazin-1-yl, in which

R210 is 1-4C-alkyl,

R211 is halogen,

R3 is hydrogen,

R4 is methyl, or methoxy,

or a salt, N-oxide or a salt of an N-oxide thereof.

3. (Previously presented) The compound of formula I as claimed in claim 1 in which

R1 is hydrogen, methyl or ethyl,

R2 is hydrogen, iodine, bromine, phenyl, or R21- and/or R211-substituted phenyl, in which

R21 is methyl, cyano, chlorine, fluorine, dimethylamino, trifluoromethyl, dimethylaminosulfonyl, hydroxyl, benzyloxy, or  $-S(O)_2$ -Het, in which

Het is azetidin-1-yl, pyrrolidin-1-yl, piperidin-1-yl, or 4N-methyl-piperazin-1-yl, in which

R211 is chlorine,

R3 is hydrogen,

R4 is methyl, or methoxy,

or a salt, N-oxide or a salt of an N-oxide thereof.

4. (Previously presented) The compound of formula I as claimed in claim 1 in which

R1 is hydrogen or methyl,

R2 is bonded in the 6-position of the 3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine ring, and is hydrogen, iodine, bromine, phenyl, 3-hydroxyl-phenyl, 4-(R21)-phenyl, or 3,5-dichloro-phenyl, in which

R21 is methyl, cyano, chlorine, fluorine, dimethylamino, trifluoromethyl, dimethylaminosulfonyl, benzyloxy, or  $-S(O)_2$ -Het, in which

Het is azetidin-1-yl, pyrrolidin-1-yl, piperidin-1-yl, or 4N-methyl-piperazin-1-yl, in which

R3 is hydrogen,

R4 is methyl, or methoxy,  
or a salt, N-oxide or a salt of an N-oxide thereof.

5. (Previously presented) The compound of formula I as  
claimed in claim 1 in which

R1 is hydrogen or 1-4C-alkyl,

R2 is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, nitro, amino, 1-7C-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, 3-7C-cycloalkyl, 3-7C-cycloalkyl-1-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy, completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-4C-alkoxy, 1-4C-alkoxy-1-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy-1-4C-alkoxy, 1-4C-alkoxycarbonyl, mono- or di-1-4C-alkylaminocarbonyl, mono- or di-1-4C-alkylaminosulfonyl, 1-4C-alkylcarbonylamino, 1-4C-alkylsulfonylamino, phenyl, R21- and/or R211-substituted phenyl, phenyl-1-4C-alkyl, phenyl-1-4C-alkyl wherein the phenyl moiety is substituted by R22, phenyl-1-4C-alkoxy, pyridyl, pyridyl substituted by R23, pyridyl-1-4C-alkyl, pyridyl-1-4C-alkyl wherein the pyridyl moiety is substituted by R24, in which

R21 is cyano, halogen, carboxyl, 1-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy, aminocarbonyl, mono- or di-1-4C-alkylaminocarbonyl, 1-4C-alkylcarbonylamino, 1-4C-alkoxycarbonyl,

aminosulfonyl, mono- or di-1-4C-alkylaminosulfonyl,  
amino, mono- or di-1-4C-alkylamino, trifluoromethyl,  
hydroxyl, phenylsulfonylamino or phenyl-1-4C-alkoxy,

R211 is halogen or 1-4C-alkoxy,

R22 is halogen, 1-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkoxy,

R23 is halogen, 1-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkoxy,

R24 is halogen, 1-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkoxy,

R3 is hydrogen, halogen, 1-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkoxy,

R4 is 1-4C-alkyl,

or a salt, N-oxide or a salt of an N-oxide thereof.

6. (Previously presented) A compound of formula I as  
claimed in claim 1 in which

R1 is hydrogen, methyl or ethyl,

R2 is hydrogen, iodine, bromine, phenyl, or R21-substituted  
phenyl, in which

R21 is methyl, cyano, chlorine, fluorine, dimethylamino or  
trifluoromethyl,

R3 is hydrogen,

R4 is methyl,

or a salt, N-oxide or a salt of an N-oxide thereof.

7. (Previously presented) A compound of formula I as claimed in claim 1 in which

R1 is hydrogen or methyl,

R2 is R21-substituted phenyl, in which

R21 is aminosulphonyl, mono- or di-1-4C-alkylaminosulfonyl, or  $-S(O)_2$ -Het, in which

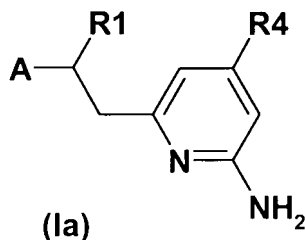
Het is azetidin-1-yl, pyrrolidin-1-yl, piperidin-1-yl, or 4N-(1-4C-alkyl)-piperazin-1-yl,

R3 is hydrogen,

R4 is methyl, or methoxy,

or a salt, N-oxide or a salt of an N-oxide thereof.

8. (Previously presented) A compound of formula I as claimed in claim 1 which is of formula Ia



in which

R1 is hydrogen,

R4 is methyl or methoxy, and

A is 6-(4-dimethylaminosulphonyl-phenyl)-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl, 6-(4-diethylaminosulphonyl-phenyl)-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl, 6-(4-methylaminosulphonyl-

phenyl)-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl, 6-(4-aminosulphonyl-phenyl)-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl, 6-(4-ethylaminosulphonyl-phenyl)-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl, 6-[4-(azetidine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl, 6-[4-(pyrrolidine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl, 6-[4-(piperidine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl, or 6-[4-(4-methyl-piperazine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl, or a salt, N-oxide or a salt of an N-oxide thereof.

9. (Previously presented) The compound of formula I according to claim 1 comprising one or more of the following:

R1 is hydrogen,

R2 is bonded to the 6-position of the 3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine ring,

R3 is hydrogen, and

R4 is methyl;

or a salt, N-oxide or a salt of an N-oxide thereof.

10. (Currently amended) The compound according to claim 1 which is selected from the group consisting of:



- [[1.]] a. 2-[2-(2-Amino-4-methylpyridin-6-yl)ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine,
- [[2.]] b. (R,S)-2-[3-(2-Amino-4-methylpyridin-6-yl)prop-2-yl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine,
- [[3.]] c. (R,S)-2-[4-(2-Amino-4-methylpyridin-6-yl)but-2-yl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine,
- [[4.]] d. 2-[2-(2-Amino-4-methylpyridin-6-yl)ethyl]-6-bromo-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine,
- [[5.]] e. 2-[2-(2-Amino-4-methylpyridin-6-yl)ethyl]-6-phenyl-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine,
- [[6.]] f. 2-[2-(2-Amino-4-methylpyridin-6-yl)ethyl]-6-(4-cyano-phenyl)-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine,
- [[7.]] g. 2-[2-(2-Amino-4-methylpyridin-6-yl)ethyl]-6-p-tolyl-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine,
- [[8.]] h. 2-[2-(2-Amino-4-methylpyridin-6-yl)ethyl]-6-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine,
- [[9.]] i. 2-[2-(2-Amino-4-methylpyridin-6-yl)ethyl]-6-(4-dimethylamino-phenyl)-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine,
- [[10.]] j. 2-[2-(2-Amino-4-methylpyridin-6-yl)ethyl]-6-(4-chloro-phenyl)-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine,
- [[11.]] k. 2-[2-(2-Amino-4-methylpyridin-6-yl)ethyl]-6-(4-iodo-phenyl)-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine,

- [[12.]] 1. 2-[2-(2-Amino-4-methylpyridin-6-yl)ethyl]-6-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine,
- [[13.]] m. 6-{2-[6-(3-Benzyloxy-phenyl)-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl]-ethyl}-4-methyl-pyridin-2-ylamine,
- [[14.]] n. 6-{2-[6-(3,5-Dichloro-phenyl)-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl]-ethyl}-4-methyl-pyridin-2-ylamine,
- [[15.]] o. 6-{2-[6-(4-Benzyloxy-phenyl)-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl]-ethyl}-4-methyl-pyridin-2-ylamine,
- [[16.]] p. 3-{2-[2-(6-Amino-4-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-phenol,
- [[17.]] q. 6-(2-{6-[4-(Azetidine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl}-ethyl)-4-methyl-pyridin-2-ylamine,
- [[18.]] r. 4-Methyl-6-(2-{6-[4-(pyrrolidine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl}-ethyl)-pyridin-2-ylamine,
- [[19.]] s. 4-Methyl-6-(2-{6-[4-(piperidine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl}-ethyl)-pyridin-2-ylamine,

[[20.]] t. 4-{2-[2-(6-Amino-4-methyl-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-N,N-dimethyl-benzenesulfonamide,

[[21.]] u. 4-Methyl-6-(2-{6-[4-(4-methyl-piperazine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl}-ethyl)-pyridin-2-ylamine,

[[22.]] v. 2-[2-(2-Amino-4-methoxypyridin-6-yl)ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine

and the salts, N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides thereof.

11. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition containing one or more compounds of formula I according to claim 1, or a salt, N-oxide or a salt of an N-oxide thereof, together with a pharmaceutically suitable auxiliary and/or excipient.

12. - 13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously presented) A method for treating an acute inflammatory disease in a patient comprising administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount of a

compound of formula I according to claim 1, or a salt, N-oxide or a salt of an N-oxide thereof.

**15.** (Previously presented) A method for treating a chronic inflammatory disease of peripheral organs and the central nervous system (CNS) in a patient comprising administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula I according to claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, N-oxide or a salt of an N-oxide thereof.